

## Message Text

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73

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 PA-03 CU-04 CEQ-02 EPA-04

SCI-06 SS-15 NSC-10 PRS-01 USIA-15 RSR-01 RSC-01 /099 W

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R 301801Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3001

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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FOR COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA OVIP

SUBJEC: SPOKANE EXPO '74 - VISIT OF COMMISSIONER

HENDERSON

REF: STATE 141111

1. TRADE CENTER DIRECTOR NORRIS ACCOMPANIED COMMISSIONER GENERAL HENDERSON, KING COLE AND WARNES TO CALL ON NORMAN REDDAWAY, ASSISNT UNDER SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF INFORMATION AND CULTURAL MATTERS IN THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE (FCO) ON JULY 23. REDDAWAY POINTED TO BUDGET PROBLEMS AND SHORTAGE OF TIME BUT UNDERTOOK TO HAVE NEGATIVE BRITISH DECISION REVIEWED WITHIN TWO WEEKS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED A HIGH LEVEL APPROACH TO GEOFFREY RIPPON, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WHOSE ENDORSEMENT WOULD BE A "KEY" TO EARLY POSITIVE ACTION.

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2. IN ABSENCE OF RIPPON, ECON/CML MINISTER BRAND AND

NORRIS TOOK HENDERSON AND COLE TO CALL ON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (DOE) PARLIAMENTARY UNDERSECRETARY ELDON GRIFFITHS. GRIFFITHS HAD UNFORTUNATELY BEEN POORLY BRIEFED AND GAVE THE VISITORS A VERY NEGATIVE RECEPTION, CLAIMING DOE HAD NOT HEARD ABOUT EXPO '74 BEFORE THIS MEETING AND DENYING EMPHATICALLY THAT EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HAD EVER CONSIDERED MATTER. (HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED BRAND AND APOLOGIZED PROFUSELY FOR GRIFFITH'S "CONFUSION").

3. ON BASIS HIS CONVERSATION WITH HENDERSON AND COLE AMBASSADOR ANNENBERG ON EVENING JULY 25 HAD LONG DISCUSSION WITH GRIFFITHS WHO BY THEN WAS BETTER INFORMED. HE URGED GRIFFITHS TO GIVE THOROUGH ATTENTION TO POSSIBILITIES OF UK PARTICIPATION IN EXPO '74. GRIFFITHS PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. AS FOLLOWUP AMBASSADOR ANNENBERG WROTE LETTER TO GRIFFITHS RECAPITULATING DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE AND ASKING FOR HIS GOOD OFFICES TO SECURE UK PARTICIPATION. THIS LETTER WAS HAND CARRIED TO GRIFFITHS AT DOE ON JULY 27. COPIES OF AMBASSADOR ANNENBERG'S LETTER ARE BEING TRANSMITTED TO SENATORS MAGNUSON AND JACKSON, COMMISSIONER HENDERSON AND KING COLE UNDER COVER OF SEPARATE LETTERS FROM ECON/CML. MINISTER BRAND.

4. ON JULY 27 COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AND TRADE CENTER DIRECTOR PAIDNOTHER LL ON REDDAWAY AT FCO TO INFORM HIM OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND INTRODUCE COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR JUST RETURNED FROM HOME LEAVE' MEANTIME, ECON/L. MINISTER ALSO MADE OTHER HIGH LEVEL CONTACT FCO AND DOE. REDAWAY STATED HE HAD RAISED SPOKANE EXPOSITION AT JULY 27 MEETING OF FCO MINISTERS AND HAD CABLED BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON FOR ITS RECOMMENDATION' HE INDICATED REVERSAL OF MINISTERIAL DECISION AGAINST PARTICIPATION WOULD BE DIFFICULT PARTICULARLY SINCE FCO MONEY SET ASIDE FOR BRITISH JOINT PARTICIPATION IN EC PAVILION HAD BEEN REPROGRAMMED WHEN FRENCH OPPOSED EC PARTICIPATION.

5. FOLLOWING REDDAWAY MEETING EMBASSY CONTACTED KING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COLE IN EMBASSY BRUSSELS AND REPORTED WEEK'S DEVELOPMENTS. WE EMPHASIZED THAT IN OUR OPINION ONLY THE STRONGEST PRESSURE FROM THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON COULD OFFER HOPE OF EXERTING ENOUGH PRESSURE ON FCO TO REVERSE ITS DECISION. DOE ENDORSEMENT COULD BE HELPFUL BUT IF, AS FCO EXPECTED, THEY COULD NOT PROVIDE FUNDS, THE MONEY WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM FCO FOR A PARTICIPATION AND THIS WOULD NECESSITATE TAKING FUNDS

FROM OTHER EVENTS ALREADY SCHEDULED BY FCO. COLE SAID  
COMMISSIONER HENDERSON WAS TALKING TO SECRETARY DENT  
AT THAT MOMENT AND HE WOULD PASS ON THIS INFORMATION'  
HOPEFULLY SECRETARY DENT WILL SEEK EARLIEST POSSIBLE  
MEETING DURING THIS WEEK WITH BRITISH CHARGE.  
SOHM

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